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The Official National Organ of Phi Delta Kappa

The Phi Delta Kappan

Continuing the National News Letter of Phi Delta Kappa

Published November, February, April, and June at Chicago, Illinois

By the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity.

ABEL J. McALLISTER, Managing Editor

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Communications From National Officers

SIGNIFICANT PLANS FOR THE YEAR

By William S. Gray, National President

IN behalf of the executive committee I wish to extend most cordial greetings and best wishes to all members of Phi Delta Kappa. We sincerely trust that in re-establishing the Phi Delta Kappan the National Council has provided a permanent means of communication between all units of our organization.

Phi Delta Kappa has started on a new year which is full of unusual opportunities and possibilities. The war unfortunately brought to an end the normal activities of many of the local chapters. We are glad to report that all but three have found it possible to continue their work since the close of the war. During the year it will be necessary to revive a few chapters, to establish a large number of new ones, to make rapid strides forward in the reorganization of the general activities of the fraternity, and to acquire once more the powerful momentum which developed during the early history of Phi Delta Kappa. The plans for accomplishing progress along many lines are described in detail in this issue by Brother McAllister, the National Secretary.

The purpose of Phi Delta Kappa as stated in the constitution is "to support the highest educational ideals and to encourage unswerving allegiance to the principles underlying American public education." Three ideals have been adopted by the fraternity which it endeavors to perpetuate in itself as an or-

ganization and in the professional lives of its members. They are Research, Service and Leadership. In addition, Phi Delta Kappa constantly endeavors by every worthy means at its disposal to create and foster genuine fellowship and the true fraternal spirit among its members. These are worthy motives of permanent value which must be cherished and developed in all our activities.

In the case of every organization, however, it becomes necessary from time to time to interpret anew its aims and ideals in terms of modern problems and needs. Phi Delta Kappa is no exception to the rule. During the last five years the normal development of educational thought and activity has been seriously interrupted. Numerous problems of large significance have presented themselves for solution. The need for Research, Leadership and Service on the part of members of Phi Delta Kappa was never greater. These facts were clearly recognized by the National Council and at its last meeting the importance of giving these matters serious consideration was emphasized. Plans have accordingly been made to discuss and interpret this year the cardinal principles of our organization in terms of recent developments in education. It is hoped that these discussions may lead to a clearer vision of our possibilities and a more explicit definition of our immediate responsibilities as a national educational fraternity.

The first step in interpreting the aims and ideals of Phi Delta Kappa has been the organization of a series of articles on Leadership in Education. More than twenty-five of America's most prominent educators have agreed to contribute short articles on this problem to the Phi Delta Kappan. The first series appears in this issue of the magazine and is entitled, "Training for Leadership." Subsequent issues will contain series of articles on "Opportunities for Leadership," "Problems Demanding Solution," and "Leadership: Past History and Future Prospects." We believe that every member of Phi Delta Kappa will be genuinely interested in each of these articles.

The second step includes a deliberate study by the fraternity as a whole of its aims and responsibilities as a national educational fraternity. All of the local and alumni chapters have been asked to make a careful study of this problem during the remainder of the current calendar year and to formulate a carefully worded statement of the largest service which Phi Delta Kappa can render. Furthermore letters have been sent to fifty prominent field members requesting assistance in the study of this problem. The reports which are received will be studied very carefully and a detailed statement prepared of the aims, ideals, responsibilities and possibilities of Phi Delta Kappa at this significant, but critical, period. The report as a whole will be presented at the Phi Delta Kappa Luncheon, Wednesday noon, March 2, 1921, at Atlantic City. This occasion has been selected because the executive committee believes that this annual luncheon is the most significant opportunity that the fraternity has during the year to interpret its aims and purposes and to stimulate productive effort and concerted action on the part of its members.

Following the Atlantic City meeting the report will be published in the Phi Delta Kappan. At that time local chapters will be asked to make a study of ways in which these purposes and ideals can be incorporated most effectively into

the work of the local chapters. Similar studies will be made of the opportunities which are open to alumni chapters and to field members. By the end of the year it is hoped that a sufficient amount of experience will have accumulated to formulate intelligently a larger and more definite program of activity for the coming year.

In the meantime, each chapter is urged to build up a strong organization from carefully selected candidates, to provide a vigorous program for the year which will prove stimulating and interesting and which will secure growth on the part of its members, to co-operate actively with the executive committee in its plans for the year, to give serious consideration to the problems which have been outlined above, and to create and foster a true fraternal spirit among its members.

The field members are urged to put their shoulders to the wheel by sending local and national dues to the local secretary, if this has not already been done, by attending meetings of Phi Delta Kappa whenever opportunity presents, by organizing alumni chapters wherever a sufficient number of members of the fraternity can be found in a given community, and by exemplifying in all their professional work the spirit and ideals of the fraternity.

PHI DELTA KAPPA TO JUSTIFY ITS EXISTENCE

One of the valuable by-products of the war is the tendency to analyze critically existing agencies, institutions and organizations. Many of these, supposedly effective, either failed to function or did so in an incomplete manner, during the stress of war conditions. Consequently, we are confronted by the necessity of strengthening them or changing their purposes and modes of operation.

As an organization, Phi Delta Kappa can not be considered as an exception. Some local chapters have ceased to func-

tion. Others have kept up their activities, though in an incomplete way. Hence, at the National Council meeting last July, such questions as the following were thoroughly considered: Has Phi Delta Kappa a distinct function? If so, what is it? and, How shall it be more effectively fulfilled?

The program for the coming biennium as outlined in this number of our magazine, is the answer of the Council and executive committee. Within the next two years undoubtedly we can determine whether or not Phi Delta Kappa is to justify its existence. We are counting upon the heartiest support and co-operation of all chapters and brothers.

LEWIS W. WILLIAMS,
National Vice President.

ONE HUNDRED PER CENT

The present problem before Phi Delta Kappa is more than simply one of reorganization. In the past too little stress has been placed upon the possibilities of achievement open to such an organization of men vitally interested in education. Those of us who attended the meeting of the National Council during the summer were fully impressed by the possibilities when we got together and discussed the work and spirit of the individual chapters. The plan of a 100% membership drive was the outcome.

To make the force of Phi Delta Kappa count in a constructive way, is the program President Gray has outlined. Before anything can be done, however, we must be sure of one hundred per cent interest in every chapter. Let us make our motto for the year—everyone working in every chapter for every member an active interested member.

C. S. MILLER,
National Treasurer.

UNITY

It was not until 1915 that Phi Delta Kappa acquired a real national consciousness. The founders had undoubtedly looked forward to a growth in many institutions, but for a number of years the local emphasis had been exceedingly strong. Even after this growth had begun, the different chapters remained strongly individualized units, and the national organization had little significance and little support.

In the 1915 (Oakland) Council, however, certain definite steps were taken toward national unity, the most important of which was the pooling of delegates' mileage. This brought about the very good result of assuring real representation of all chapters at the national meetings. Other forward looking legislation was also passed at this time.

Practically all of this legislation was approved, in spite of considerable controversy, and more was added in the same spirit at the 1916 (Chicago) Council.

In spite of the fears frequently expressed, it seems that the new Phi Delta Kappa spirit lost little or nothing during the war. The remarkably successful council held in Chicago the past summer gives eloquent testimony to that.

With the provisions for a vigorous campaign for national membership and the appointment of national deputies and local correspondents through which to bring the national organization to every man, and every man to the national organization, it seems that we have come close to the real ideal of the founders.

And it also seems that with sufficient legislation now in force to have brought chapters and members together, we can begin to pay definite attention to a program of educational inspiration and achievement.

J. DAVID HOUSER,
National Historian.

Have you paid your National Membership Fee? See page 28.

The One Hundred Per Cent Membership Campaign

The following, slightly modified, is a copy of the general letter sent out from the National Secretary's office October 27th to the Active Chapters, and is now made as an appeal direct to every member.

"The National Constitution as revised by the 1920 Council provides for an annual National Membership fee of ONE DOLLAR. *This fee is now due, as the fiscal year began July 1, 1920.*

"The Council also instructed the National Secretary to co-operate with the Chapters in conducting the *100% Membership Campaign*. We hope to have on the national roll before the end of the year every member of Phi Delta Kappa. There are now almost three thousand of us and wherever we talk with members of the fraternity, there is expressed a feeling that we need to have a closer tie, and a common consciousness. To that end the 1920 Council, with one accord, decided that the national magazine, THE PHI DELTA KAPPAN, should be continued and that it should begin to take on a definite editorial aspect toward the realization of the three purposes of Phi Delta Kappa; namely, Research, Service, Leadership. It also decided by the constitutional revision that each member in good standing should receive the national magazine. *A member in good standing is one who has paid his national membership fee and his chapter due for the current fiscal year.*

"Thus the definite objective in the **100% Membership Campaign** is to enlist every member of every chapter as a paying member, contributing to the support of his chapter and to the Fraternity as a whole. In return for this the member is, of course, entitled to receive the national magazine and the news letter of his chapter. It is suggested that each chapter make its annual due about 50 cents, and by securing this modest amount from all, the chapter will realize sufficient to provide for all the ordinary expense for the year.

"The following suggestions are offered you and are really made up of answers to questions that have already come in:

"1. Who are to pay the National annual membership fee? Answer: All members initiated previous to July 1, 1917. The council provided that members initiated since July 1, 1917, should pay no national membership fee for the present fiscal year. This does not, however, ex-

cuse such members from paying the chapter due.

"2. When should the national membership fee be collected and by whom? Answer: It should be collected at once and should be collected by the chapter through its corresponding secretary or treasurer. As a matter of convenience, the annual chapter due should be collected at the same time. The national membership fee should be sent by the chapter treasurer to the national secretary, together with the names and addresses of members who have paid the fee.

"3. Will the national secretary furnish chapters with any blanks to assist in conducting the campaign? Answer: Yes, we have had printed a 5"x8" blank, a Member's Record, to send out to members to be filled in and returned with remittance. These blanks have gone forward to the corresponding secretary of each active chapter.

"4. Will members who have paid their

national membership fee and their chapter due, be receipted? Yes, the national constitution provides that each such member shall be given a membership re-

ceipt signed by the national secretary and the secretary of the member's chapter. Those membership cards are now being printed.

"Please bear in mind in your campaign that the November number of the PHI DELTA KAPPAN will go out to every member whether he has paid up or not. Therefore it is important from every standpoint that you get your membership list to me as soon as possible. The November number will have a digest of the 1920 Council activities and, we hope, also, the 1920 revised Constitution. The first of the series of articles on Leadership in Education that is being conducted by Dean Gray, our National President, will appear in the November issue."

Thus, member in the field, you can greatly help the cause along by filling in the blank on page 28, if you have not already done so, and forwarding immediately to your chapter with your remittance.

ABEL J. McALLISTER, National Secretary.

Leadership in Education

PHI DELTA KAPPA was organized in the belief that there is need for Leadership in Education. Inasmuch as the opportunities and responsibilities of leaders in education vary from time to time, it is important that the whole problem be thoroughly discussed at frequent intervals.

Plans have been made to discuss the problems of Leadership in Education in each issue of the Phi Delta Kappan this year. More than twenty-five articles will be included which organize themselves about four phases of the problem; namely, The Training of Leaders, The Opportunities for Leadership, Problems for Solution, and Past History and Future Prospects for Leadership. It is hoped that these discussions will lead to a clearer vision of our opportunities and a more explicit definition of the responsibilities of Phi Delta Kappa at this time as a National Educational Fraternity.

WM. S. GRAY, National President.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERS AND LEADERSHIP

Consider the leaders in education. Some are tall, some short; some loquacious, others taciturn; some persuasive, some aggressive. Physically and by temperament they come in the most varied sorts of sizes, shapes, and kinds. Judd and Strayer just love to make speeches. Thorndike and Spaulding speak excellently well, but it is hard to persuade them

to do it. Kendall formulates his conclusions with careful deliberation, while Elliott states his with explosive vehemence. Flexner is as suave and soft-spoken as a Chesterfield, but there is another eminent educator who delivers his dicta like a regular army top-sergeant. Clearly leaders in education do not conform to any single standard test or scale of personality.

The characteristics of educational